

OSCC Decision No. 12/03 To The Treaty On Open Skies

Mechanism and a timetable of the distribution of active quotas

Following Article III, Section I, paragraphs 6 and 7, Article III, Section II, paragraph 7, Annex A, Section II, Annex H, paragraphs 1 and 3, and Annex L, Section II of the Treaty on Open Skies, a new distribution of active quotas will start on 1 January 2004. For the purpose of preparation of the OSCC decision on the distribution of active quotas for the year 2004 and thereafter the OSCC decides on the following procedure and time lines:

1. All States Parties/Group of States Parties (SP/GSP) by 1 October each year shall notify (OS F 34) all other SP/GSP and the OSCC of SP/GSP over which they wish to conduct their observation flights during the next calendar year, highlighting the changes requested;
2. The three-week period referenced in Article III, Section I, paragraph 7 shall start on 1 October;
3. The SP/GSP first in alphabetical order currently holding active quota over one or more SP/GSP will act as co-ordinator for the distribution process of all quotas over this/these SP/GSP. For SP/GSP over which so far no active quota was distributed, the next SP/GSP in alphabetical order, having requested such quota(s), will act as co-ordinator;
4. Proposed modifications to the distribution of active quotas shall be considered according to the rules set out in Annex L, Section II (general rule), Annex A, Section II, paragraph 4 (for acceding SP/GSP), and Article III, Section II, paragraph 7 (for changes inside a GSP);
5. In cases where bids exceed the available passive quota the co-ordinator shall immediately facilitate contact with the other interested SP/GSP with the aim of reaching agreement on distribution within the three-week period. SP/GSP may consider sharing quota under the leadership of one SP/GSP;
6. Each co-ordinator will inform the OSCC chair no later than 22 October of the results. On the basis of this information the OSCC chairperson prepares the draft decision for the distribution of active quotas for the forthcoming year;
7. The draft decision shall be presented to the OSCC plenary for decision no later than three working days before 1 November.

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Done in Vienna in the Open Skies Consultative Commission on 21 July 2003, in each of the six languages specified in Article XIX of the Treaty on Open Skies, all texts being equally authentic.